Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /106 W

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R 090704Z APR 74 FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1469 INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG USLO PEKING AMEMBASSY TOKYO COMUSTDC

CONFIDENTIAL TAIPEI 2197

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, US, TW

SUBJECT: RENEWED EDITORIAL CRITICISM OF US CHINA POLICY

REF: TAIPEI 2124

TDC FOR J-22

1. IN CONTRAST TO CHUNG YANG JIN PAO ARTICLE REPORTED REFTEL AND GENERALLY POSITIVE TREATMENT OF US CHINA POLICY SINCE UNGER APPOINTMENT, INDEPENDENT, TAIWANESE-ORIENTED TZU LI WAN PAO IN APRIL 6 EDITORIAL WARNED THAT WORSENING OF US-PRC RELATIONS DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN IMPROVEMENT IN US-ROC RELATIONS. NOTING THE US IS "CHANGEABLE COUNTRY WHICH DOES NOT HAVE UNCHANGEABLE POLICY" AND IS "FOND OF NEW SHOWS WHICH ARE DEPORED BY FRIENDS AND CHEERED BY FOES," EDITORIAL CAUTIONS THAT RELYING ON ANY OTHER COUNTRY DENOTES "LACK OF COURAGE" AND IGNORES "HISTORICAL LESSONS." EDITORIAL CONCLUDES "IT WOULD BE IMPROPER FOR US TO REST TOO BIG A HOPE ON SUCH CHANGES "(IN US-PRC RELATIONS).

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2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SUBJECT TO SAME CONSTRATINTS AS OTHER NEWSPAPERS IN TAIWAN, TLWP TAKES A MORE "TAIWANESE"STANCE, EMPHASIZING NEWS AND OPINION OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THAT COMMUNITY. EDITORIAL SEEMS TO US PROBABLY INTENDED AS A REMINDER TO TAIWANESE NOT TO RELAX EFFORTS AT STRENGTHENING TAIWAN'S ABILITY TO GO IT ALONE, AND PARTICULARLY NOT TO ASSUME US WILL INEVITABLY OR INDEFINITELY GUARANTEE TAIWAN'S SEPARATE EXISTENCE.

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

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